

## **Hoosier Humanitarian to be Honored with Highway Naming and Ceremony**

**BICKNELL, Ind.** (September 25, 2011) – Native Hoosier Ernest P. Bicknell will be honored for his lifetime of service in the town of Bicknell, Indiana. State Senator John Waterman (R – Shelburn) and State Representative Bruce Borders (R – Jasonville) sponsored Senate Concurrent Resolution 43, honoring Bicknell during the first regular session of the 117<sup>th</sup> Indiana General Assembly.

The resolution urged the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) to rename a six-mile portion of Indiana State Road 159 for Ernest P. Bicknell. The renamed road lies between Bicknell and Freelandville. Signs denoting the “Ernest P. Bicknell Highway” will be installed over the 2011 Labor Day weekend.

Bicknell was honored for his service as the National Director of the Red Cross, Vice Chairman for Insular and Foreign Operations, General Superintendent of the Chicago Bureau of Charities and the Second Secretary of the Indiana State Board of Charities. Bicknell also spent long periods of time in Europe during and after World War I studying relief needs of countries and refugees. He received many medals and decorations for his humanitarian efforts, including the Order of the Crown of Belgium, Order of the Legion of Honor of France, Order of the Crown of Italy, and the Order of St. Anne of Russia.

A ceremony will take place on Labor Day, Monday, September 5 at 10:30 a.m. (EDT) at the North Side Park in Bicknell, Indiana. Speakers include Bicknell Mayor Jon Flickinger, Knox County Commissioner Rowe Sargent, Indiana State Archivist Jim Corridan, Director of the Old Northwest Territory Red Cross Chapter Sheryl Ring-Laakman, and Dean of Butler University Libraries Lewis Miller. The ceremony is open to the public and immediately precedes the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bicknell Heritage Parade & Festival beginning at noon.

*Text of Senate Concurrent Resolution 43 can be found here:*

<http://www.in.gov/legislative/bills/2011/PDF/SRESF/SC0043.pdf>